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Extension Service *Review*

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On the docket for July

■ "We Americans must do our part to help swell the Nation's food supply," said President Truman last month, and extension agents are rallying all their resources to help farm families do this.

With the season nearing the half-way mark, crops are being harvested without appreciable loss due to the farm labor shortage. The needs have shifted somewhat because of unusual weather conditions. The late cold spring drastically reduced fruit production in many areas. However, the Southeast has had a bumper peach harvest. Drought reduced wheat production in the southern plains and consequently lowered the labor needs there, but there is still a record crop in prospect for the country as a whole. There is some little indication that more migrants are on the move—under their own steam. But with a generally late season and much of the harvest ahead, there's still a need for all-out recruitment to assure full harvest of the late summer and fall crops.

Placement of women in farm work showed a 44-percent increase during the first 4 months of 1945 as compared to 1944. Women are being recruited to help with fruit and vegetable harvests.

VFV's young workers have been in the field since spring. Harvesttime for

beans and potatoes in Louisiana's Terrebonne Parish found 1,500 boys and girls at work in the fields. In Alabama, boys recruited in 35 counties helped with the potato harvest. Some 100 boys and girls helped harvest the Tennessee strawberries. Three hundred youth helped harvest Lake County, Fla., truck crops. Girls from both public and private schools in Hampshire County, Mass., helped to cut and bunch asparagus. School boys and girls are already organized for summer-harvest emergencies as they arise.

Victory gardening and home food preservation hold a top spot in the food picture. Lag in gardening due to unfavorable weather during the spring in many parts of the country makes it more important than ever to have good summer and fall gardens.

Cooperative Extension here in Washington and in the States is working closely with Paul C. Stark, director of home food supply for the War Food Administration, in pushing victory gardens and home food preservation.

Series of regional conferences held during the past 2 months were well attended, and State garden conferences are now being organized to encourage victory gardeners to carry on through the summer and fall.

Mid-year finds the 8-point dairy program in full swing throughout the country. This "grass roots" program will be reviewed early this month in Washington, D. C., at a meeting of the National Dairy Industry Committee and representatives of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the War Food Administration. It is expected that consideration will be given to a similar program in 1946. Highlighting the meeting will be a display of State Extension Service bulletins, posters, and similar material issued in support of this program.



PICTURE OF THE MONTH

Accidents in the farm home and on the farm are more numerous than in the city. More than 7,500 farm-home fatalities occur each year. Falls and burns are the chief sources of accidents in farm homes, and many could have been prevented. A farm-safety check-up by every farm family in the Nation is the goal of National Farm-Safety Week—July 22-28.

Deferred youth form young farmer clubs

NORMAN F. WHIPPEN, Assistant State Supervisor, Emergency Farm Labor, New Hampshire

■ Young farmer clubs have been organized in New Hampshire to help men who are deferred for agriculture to carry out their responsibilities. Already 16 groups have held 98 meetings with an attendance of 3,514 during the past year. They have selected their own programs, and the entire organization has been in their hands. The county agricultural agent is the extension worker who works with these men, and he is developing the program because it concerns the whole farm business and, therefore, deals with his subject, agriculture.

Most young farmer groups are using a minimum of organization. Some clubs have a president, others do not; some of the programs are decided at regular meetings, others are selected through committees. Every effort is made to make each member feel a part of the group—if a person takes part, he is more interested than if he is only a spectator. The men are urged to tell what they are interested in, what will help them most in their farm business, and

are also made to feel that the State and county extension offices are willing to cooperate with them in every way possible. In winter months the men have their programs in town or grange halls, schools, the farm bureau office, or in some farmer's home, but at this time of year farm meetings right on the farm are popular.

New Hampshire young men on farms, like those in other States, have wondered whether they should farm or do other war work. Many entered the service or went into industry, and the farms were being depleted of manpower. In fact, it looked as if the whole farm force would "bolt" in 1943. The Extension Service realized the seriousness of the labor situation if this came to pass and groped for a solution. The problem facing the Extension Service has been to hold as many of the youth as possible on the farm by stimulating in them a real interest in agriculture and their importance in the essential job of food production. The deferment of 2,500 or more men of military age for agricul-

"One or two of these hybrids are showing promise in our demonstration plots," says L. J. Higgins, agronomist from the University of New Hampshire, reporting to the Young Farmers Club meeting at Claremont, N. H.



County Agent Colby (right) checks production records with Everett King, a member of the Sullivan County Young Farmers Club

ture has given valuable assistance in enabling New Hampshire to grow \$40,000,000 worth of food products.

The organization of Young Farmer Clubs in which the deferred men could be assisted in their allotted work has helped these young men to understand and better fulfill their part in the war program. At first, young men discussed the problem with the county agent in county committee meetings. Trial meetings were arranged, and the whole young-farmer group was invited. Future plans were made at a trial meeting for later get-togethers. There are not any hard-and-fast rules. The objective is to help the young farmer in his agricultural situation, and county agents are leading groups in that direction. They are more likely to continue their clubs if they conduct them in their own way. Suggestions from the State workers are adjusted in the county to the local situation.

Young farmers, like everyone else, enjoy seeing things. Tours to successful farms to inspect improved pastures, machinery methods, roughage programs, barn arrangements, storage methods, appeal to them. Agricultural specialists willingly give their time because these young men accept new practices more readily than older farmers. Farmers who have made progress encourage younger men when they tell the story of how they tackle their problems. At one meeting, a farmer with 50 years' experience and the State agronomy special-

ist were invited to discuss Ladino clover and roughage production. The specialist gave valuable advice on the subject, but the farmer with his plain language and wealth of experience really influenced the meeting.

It is easier for the members to talk in meetings when they are all of the same age, and then they discuss the subject with the speaker and among themselves. Motion pictures are used frequently.

The recreation phase of the program has received attention in some clubs, but it has been of limited importance during the past year. One club arranged a bowling match after the program; another had a ladies' night, and numerous clubs have refreshments such as doughnuts and coffee.

Two of the large counties have three clubs, so that the men won't have to travel too far. Small counties have just one organization. In the northernmost county of the State, two groups meet in their localities for a joint meeting and program. At this gathering they select subjects for the next

three meetings so that both groups can use the same speakers. Monthly meetings are becoming the habit throughout the State.

It doesn't seem possible to get all members of any group to participate. Therefore, we send to all the men deferred for agriculture a mimeographed paper which we call *The Young Farmer*. Through this paper we continually endeavor to build up their morale and the importance of their job; and in most issues we use statements from such officials as the Governor, Commissioner of Agriculture, Director of Extension, Chairman of the War Board, and others who have written articles filled with high praise of the young farmers' efforts. Specialists write notes for columns which we call "Do It Now" and "In a Nutshell." We keep the men posted on the 2-C classifications and about the doings of young farmer clubs over the State. We get from the county agents short stories about successful farmers and include these local items. The whole paper may occupy only the four sides of two sheets of paper.

nessmen gathered the following evening to make plans for another such event next fall.

Whenever County Agent Smith needs anything for his 4-H Clubs Garland Johnson helps him get it. This sort of teamwork between farm and city is strongly recommended by both groups in Elkin.

Land value and appraisal training demonstrations

A series of eight 1-day training demonstrations in farm land values and appraisal were held in Mississippi during April by the State Extension Service, in consultation with the Farm Security Administration and the Farm Credit Administration of New Orleans, La.

The purposes of these demonstrations were to bring to the attention of the farm leadership the importance of the current trend in farm land values; the probable implication to agriculture in the post-war period, particularly in regard to the Veterans' Farm Purchase Program; and to give local agricultural agency workers background information and procedures in farm land values and appraisals based on the soils and average normal conditions.

It is expected that the information and training given the county workers will be used in work in the local communities among leaders and farmers generally as well as with returning veterans and war workers seeking farming opportunities.

A total of 292 workers attended and participated in the demonstrations, including 136 extension workers, 71 Farm Security Administration supervisors, 29 Soil Conservation Service field men, 23 Farm Credit Administration field men and secretaries, 13 county AAA administrators, and 20 farmers, teachers, and others.

The demonstrations were planned and conducted under the supervision of the Extension Economics Division, in cooperation with the Extension soils specialist. It is planned to hold similar training demonstrations again in the spring of 1946.

■ With a view to city beautification, members of the Greenleaf 4-H Club in the Clearwater-Hynes area, Los Angeles, Calif., have propagated hundreds of flowering eucalyptus for community plantings.

Farm and business team-up

■ In Elkin, N. C., farmers and businessmen have proved the value of cooperation for their mutual welfare, reports Assistant Director Reuben Brigham, who attended one of their recent Farmers' Day meetings and returned enthusiastic about the practical teamwork of the local businessmen, bankers, and farmers. With more than 700 in attendance, the town and country folks devoted the afternoon to an educational program on dairying and adequate permanent and annual pastures. Neill M. Smith, Surry County agent, presided. After dinner, served by the Y. M. C. A., C. W. Bailey of the First National Bank of Clarksville, Tenn., and chairman of the agricultural committee of the American Bankers Association, talked to the folks about making ready rural America for the time "when G. I. Joe returns."

This was the third annual farmers' day meeting, each larger than the former. It was sponsored by the Elkin Kiwanis Club, Lions Club, Junior Chamber of Commerce and Merchants Association, the North Carolina Bank-

ers Association, and the State Extension Service. The meeting was opened by Dean I. O. Schaub, Director of the Extension Service; and Fred Greene, Secretary of the North Carolina Bankers Association, brought greetings from that organization.

The town of Elkin is in the heart of a rich, fertile portion of the foothill country and is the only large town in the area. As Extension Editor Frank Jeter says: "The town has set out to become the center of a progressive community composed of the lower part of its own Surry County and parts of the adjoining counties of Yadkin and Wilkes. Surry's county agent, Neill Smith, spark-plugs the rural part of the farmer-banker movement; and Garland Johnson, an alert young business and civic leader, vice president of the bank of Elkin, the town part. An example of their activities was the cattle and wool show sponsored by the Elkin business leaders. They invited all 4-H Club members of the adjacent counties to be their guests at luncheon, with 1,200 hungry people present. More than 300 busi-

County agent and Georgia Institute of Genetics improve seed

WALTER S. BROWN, Director, Georgia Extension Service



M. W. H. Collins

■ Farmers of Bartow County, Ga., are fortunate to have the Georgia Institute of Genetics. This nonprofit corporation was organized in 1943 to serve as a means of breeding, multiplying, growing, and distributing improved seed stocks and domestic animals.

The idea for this corporation, which now has assets of approximately \$31,000, including a 160-acre farm, originated with M. W. H. Collins, county agent of Bartow County, who has been in and out of county agent work for about 20 years, but whose life interest has been one of improving crops and livestock. Mr. Collins interrupted his extension career twice to go into commercial seed breeding. When he returned to extension work to stay in 1933, he was determined to work out some method for supplying farmers generally with better seed stocks.

County Agent Collins interested farmers in Bartow County in cotton-seed improvement demonstrations. He introduced several tons of pedigreed Stoneville cotton planting seed which had been grown from seed furnished by Dr. H. B. Brown, plant breeder of

the Louisiana State University and originator of the variety. For about 5 years Collins cooperated with from 2 to 5 farmers in growing this variety of cotton for seed selection. In 1941 the number of cooperators increased to 20, in 1943 to 25, and in 1944 to 30.

Collins believes that the cotton-improvement program has probably shown its greatest results for the benefit of Bartow County during 1944 when each of the 30 cooperators had a small breeding patch on his farm. In addition to the work with these 30 cooperators, highly improved seed was planted on 17 acres of the Georgia Institute of Genetics farm at Cartersville.

It is expected that in 1945 the Stoneville strain of cotton, which has been tested for the past 3 years, will be used by as many as 75 to 100 cotton-improvement cooperators in Bartow County and adjoining areas.

In 1943, when measuring the influence of this cotton-improvement program on the yield per acre of cotton in Bartow County as compared to the yield per acre of the six adjoining counties, a graph, 1928 to 1942, showed the average yield for the six surrounding counties consistently higher than for Bartow County until 1939. Beginning in 1939, and becoming more strikingly noticeable each year thereafter, this position has been reversed; and the yield of cotton per

acre in Bartow County led the others and has shown a steady increase.

County Agent Collins and cooperators in the project decided it would be desirable to have one place where seed stocks of various kinds could be multiplied under absolute control. In connection with that place, contracts could be made with farmers to further multiply and increase good seed stocks. At the same time farmers could be furnished with the required facilities to do the necessary processing, storing, and handling of these seed stocks. Then farmers could be assured of having high-quality seed available.

Collins talked the plan over with everyone who would listen. He received considerable encouragement. One man in particular, J. M. Neel, of Bartow County, became most interested and joined with others in perfecting the details of their present project—the Georgia Institute of Genetics.

Supported by private donations, this corporation, organized in February 1943, has five trustees, including the county commissioner of Bartow County, the mayor of the county seat town, the executive head of their bank as the treasurer, J. M. Neel as secretary, and County Agent Collins as chairman of the board of this nonprofit corporation of farmers. The policies of the corporation are guided entirely by the decisions of the board of trustees.

Included in the funds for the establishment of the corporation was a donation from one man of \$500, a grant of \$15,000 from a large educational foundation with the provision that the grant be matched dollar for



PLOT PLAN AND BUILDINGS
GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF GENETICS
CARTERSVILLE, GEORGIA

dollar, also a grant of \$3,500 by another foundation for the purpose of acquiring a complete one-stand cotton gin outfit.

A farm of approximately 160 acres of some of the best soil types in Bartow County was purchased for the Georgia Institute of Genetics in 1944. As the farm was in a run-down condition, cover crops were sown and an agreement was made with the supervisors of the Coosa River Soil Conservation District to put into effect a comprehensive soil-building program on this farm. The entire farm has now been terraced, and in the fall of 1944 nearly 55 acres was sown to Austrian winter peas or other winter legume crops.

As to the future development, Collins says: "We have interested the county agents of all the adjoining counties in choosing men for 1945 cooperators in the cotton-improvement program. We hope those adjoin-

ing counties at first, and later the counties farther out, will, in cooperation with the county extension agents of those counties, adopt a similar system of seed improvement.

"We are multiplying some new strains of small grains which we have obtained from our State Experiment Station and others that we got from the Bureau of Plant Industry 2 years ago through the courtesy of Dr. Eugene C. Auchter.

"The people in this community believe that they have in this institute a good system of providing improved seed in large quantities at costs farmers feel they can afford. The people here also think that it is undoubtedly and certainly a program that could and should be nurtured and fostered by the Extension Service, as it is, upon last analysis, a purely educational program based upon the tried and true demonstration method, as exemplified by Dr. Seaman A. Knapp."

Neat homes contest

The first step in a landscaping program

R. B. HULL, Extension Horticulturist, Landscaping, Indiana

■ A lack of critical appreciation of landscape standards is one of the first problems in the home-ground development project.

What are the outstanding requirements of good development?

What are the important features of the farmstead home grounds which should be developed for maximum use and enjoyment?

This establishment of standards must be accomplished before genuine results may be hoped for. For only a sound appreciation will sustain the slow year-by-year improvement which it is possible to include in the work program and budget of the average family.

With a view to concentrating the interest of a large number of people on these standards, the "Neat Homes Contest" has been used with success in several counties. It is recommended as a preliminary step for those counties desiring to start a landscape project and as a follow-up enterprise for those counties in which some project work has been done.

This contest may be carried on in a county with only two visits by the specialist and only 2 full days' work on the part of local committees. Much

may be accomplished with a minimum expenditure of time.

The contest extends over a period of 3 or 4 weeks. A county committee of six to eight members is organized to conduct the contest. This committee is made up of representatives of the farm bureau, home-economics organizations, garden clubs, and service clubs. Three or four people in each township constitute the township judging committee which obtains the enrollment of a number of outstanding home grounds in the township, judges these entrants on the basis of the score card, and certifies the winner to the county committee.

The county committee prepares and submits for publication in local news organs publicity material throughout the period of the contest. Form stories to go out in sequence are supplied by the landscape extension office.

Four judges appointed by the county committee visit each township-winning home and score the grounds to select the county winner. Often there are two winners—a farmstead and a town home. A good plan is to appoint eight judges, four of whom work with the specialist for each half

day spent in judging. The landscape specialist accompanies the judges on this tour.

Business firms and civic organizations frequently offer the women gardening tools, paint, and landscape or gardening books as prizes. The home bureau in one county has offered in the past an all-expense trip to attend the January conference at Purdue University.

A summer tour is planned to include a half dozen outstanding places discovered by the contest. At one of these stops those present are given score cards and requested to score the grounds.

The second year the contest is conducted in a somewhat different manner. Entrants may be obtained by a township committee as usual and a preliminary scoring made by county judging committees chosen from those who accompanied the specialist during the first contest.

The contest is carried over a period of 1 year, and a second scoring is made at the end of the 12-month period. The award is thus based in this second contest upon the actual improvement made over the 12-month period. The two scorings are made on the same card.

The two successive contests can be made in a short time, and considerable leadership is developed by the practice in judging. Some thought and study are stimulated on the subject of landscape development, and the contests do much to make home-ground development more a part of our rural thinking.

The contest is suggested as one enterprise in which some service could be rendered by the extension specialist pending the initiation of the county landscape project.

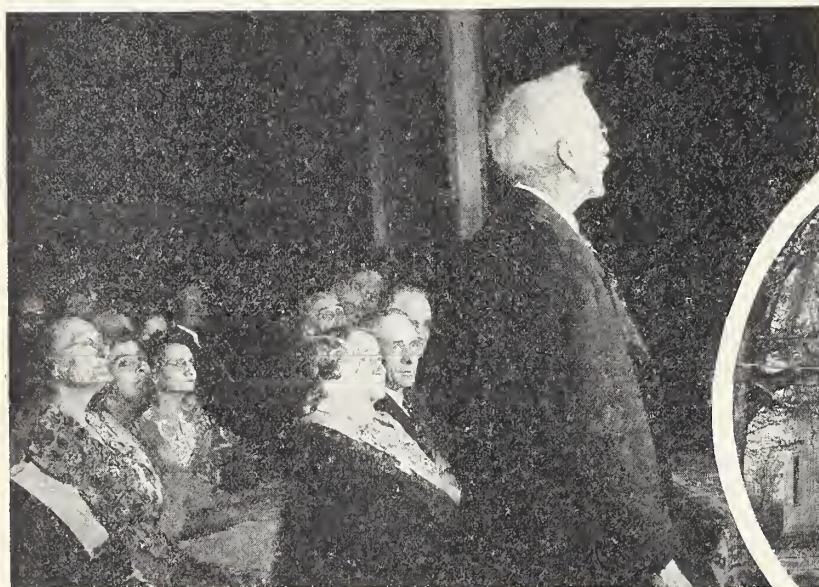
4-H girls make layettes for hospital

Antioch 4-H Club girls of Howard County, Ark., are learning the basic principles of clothing construction and also helping the local hospital by making baby layettes, reports Francille Killion, home demonstration agent.

The hospital, faced with the shortage of baby garments on the market and with the labor shortage, is furnishing the materials; and the 4-H girls are making the needed garments and blankets.



HOW TO BUILD AN ENDURING PEACE—that is the question. In town halls similar to that in Hopkinton (in the circle) New Hampshire citizens voted overwhelmingly to support the Dumbarton Oaks proposals. (Lower right) The town moderator reads the warrant calling for a vote on an international peace organization. (Left center) A citizen gets up to make the motion. (Top) Under the leadership of the home demonstration agent, Mrs. Leona Thompson, of Addison County, Vermont women get down to rock bottom on the causes of war. (Lower left) The women are interested.



Women discuss problems in building an enduring peace

■ San Francisco is not the only place where problems of organizing to maintain world peace are under consideration. Nearly 3,000 Vermont women are finishing up a series of three discussion meetings on the building of an enduring peace.

"I can hardly believe the enthusiasm and interest of these women," reports the Chittenden County home demonstration agent. "A few think that the meetings are futile, but this only served to make the other people feel the necessity of getting them to change their minds." One woman expressed it this way: "Of course it's possible to have a world organization after the war because if the Methodists, Baptists, and Congregationalists can unionize in Hinesburg and get along together, anybody else in the world can, too."

In Lamoille County, the women had a lively discussion on the Dumbarton Oaks proposals. They at least know that sacrifices must be made to maintain peace, and they are willing to make them.

About 147 home demonstration clubs in Vermont, in every county except one, are holding the series of three discussion meetings: First, a discussion on "Can we get on without wars;" second, a consideration of the causes of war; and, third, the plans proposed for maintaining world peace. The women are encouraged to participate and to do so freely, with earnestness and spirit.

These discussions are led by home demonstration agents who prepared for the job by attending an intensive short course at the University of Vermont last summer. Under the di-

rection of Dr. George Dykhuizen, associate professor of philosophy, with cooperation of political science professors, the agents learned some of the facts behind the problems of world peace; and together they outlined suggestions for conducting group discussion. Reading up on world events has been their spare-time job ever since. They do not pose as experts though and are free to say so if they do not know the answer.

In Rutland County, the woman in charge of the traveling library attended a discussion meeting and is getting the recommended books on international problems. Libraries in other counties are also cooperating. The women say they are doing more reading on the subject, and many are listening with more understanding to radio broadcasts on international affairs. Marjorie Luce, home demonstration leader in Vermont, was really responsible for the "public problems" project and has worked hard for its success. She says it began as a result of requests from Vermont rural women themselves.

"The main objective," says Miss Luce, "has been to develop an attitude, a philosophy, an open-mindedness as to the part the United States should play in international peace. We have tried to break down some of the prejudices and traditional thinking which we find in Vermont—as elsewhere."

The greatest problems have been in breaking down prejudices against anything new in the way of a program, in finding material adapted to such uses, and in providing training for the whole staff.

Bibliography of Agriculture

■ The Bibliography of Agriculture, issued monthly by the Library of the Department of Agriculture, is a comprehensive list of the books and pamphlets and of articles appearing in periodicals as they are received month by month in the Library, classified according to the major fields of interest in agriculture and related subjects. Since its first appearance in July 1942, it has taken

the place of the familiar mimeographed lists of publications of State agricultural experiment stations and State agricultural extension services and the current literature lists formerly issued by the Library.

The Bibliography consists of five separate lists. The first three are lists of the publications of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the State agricultural experiment stations, and

the State agricultural extension services. The fourth is a list of books and pamphlets arranged by subject. The fifth is a list of periodical articles and numbered serials classified according to the following categories: Plant Science, Soil Science, Forestry, Animal Industry, Entomology, Agricultural Engineering, Agricultural Products, Agricultural Economics and Sociology, Food and Human Nutrition, and Miscellaneous.

Author and classified subject-matter indexes appear with each issue, making it easy for the user to find a specific item or subject of interest to him. The last number in each volume contains cumulative indexes which supersede the monthly indexes.

The Bibliography does not include material on the essentially home-economics topics other than human nutrition, except as they are found in the publications of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the State agricultural experiment stations, and the State agricultural extension services. The Agricultural Products section also is full of interest to the person who buys or prepares food, for it lists the articles which have been published on consumption and prices and on ways of preserving, storing, freezing, and dehydrating food.

The edition is small. Free distribution is limited to State, Federal, and other public agencies, and to libraries of State experiment stations, colleges of agriculture, and the universities. Individuals may consult library copies or subscribe at \$4.50 a year through the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

■ Eight kits of material, including publications by the many agencies concerned with post-war problems, have been assembled by the Department of Rural Sociology at Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y. This is a new service offered by the loan library for grange lecturers, pastors, chairmen of program committees, or other community leaders needing resources for discussion meetings. Some of the titles are: Reports of the Commission to Study the Organization of Peace; United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, International Organization and Inter-American Understanding.



Extension agents join fighting forces

Nineteen extension workers have made the supreme sacrifice. More than 1,300 extensioners serve their country in the armed forces. These men and women are in many parts of the world and in various branches of the service. Sometimes their experiences are a far cry from those of pre-war days.

There's no place like home

Capt. Paul E. Miller, Garden County agent, Nebraska, wrote from Europe that he was in the Cologne battle. He went through a huge auto plant there. They had been making 1942 Ford trucks. After Cologne, he was in many of the other major battles. He says, "Everything over here from farming to buildings reeks with age with the exception of the way the French drive their Renaults, Citroens, Peugeotts, and other cars. They drive fast especially with army cars and use the horn much. Most of the farmers use oxen or cows for power. All crops like wheat, alfalfa, and potatoes are doing nicely. It is really quite pretty here, but the more I see of this world, the better I like the United States and home."

Awarded Bronze Star Medal

Capt. Alvin P. Parham, U. S. Army, assistant county agent in East Carroll Parish, La., on military leave, has received the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in combat during the periods May 1944 to July 1944 and October 1944 to February 1945. We quote the following from the citation signed February 28, 1945, by V. H. Pritchard, Major General, U. S. Army, Commanding:

"During these periods which covered actions against the enemy from Anzio, Italy, to Palazzo, Italy, Captain Parham consistently rendered outstanding services both as a maintenance officer and a company commander. On 23 May 1944, the first

day of the break-through from the Anzio beachhead, 14 of the 17 tanks of his company were disabled by enemy mines. Before morning of the next day, however, Captain Parham, by skillful and speedy action, had 15 tanks ready for operation against the enemy. It was due to his resourceful action and bravery in evacuating the tanks under enemy fire and repairing the disabled tanks that the company was able to resume action the next day. On another occasion, Captain Parham was ordered to capture and hold the town of Mazzoli, Italy, with a task force which consisted of his company of medium tanks plus an attached infantry company. Captain Parham alone made a reconnaissance through enemy-held territory to determine the best approaches to the town. During all the action, Captain Parham spearheaded the attack with his tank, approaching the town with only 1 section consisting of 3 tanks. Despite heavy losses, however, he pressed on with the attack, finally entering the town with only his own tank and 1 platoon of infantry, the remainder of his tanks having been knocked out by enemy anti-tank fire and mines. Captain Parham and his small group successfully held the town against counterattacks until more forces arrived to relieve him. The courage, aggressiveness, and devotion to duty displayed by Captain Parham is in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces and merits high praise."

■ The following item appeared in the Tennessee Extension Review for February:

Ella Mae Crosby, former home demonstration agent in Claiborne and Tennessee Extension's first gift to the WAVES, is at the Naval Air Station, Ground School, Corpus Christi, Tex., but "up in the air" most of the time.

She writes: "I was transferred to Speech Intelligibility" (Extension could sure use someone trained in this —Ed.) "about 3 months ago. The course includes speech over radio gear for ICS and for pilot to tower. We fly some to keep up with procedure and form. Had a very nice 3½-hour hop in a PBM last week. A pilot was checking three students on landings."

THE ROLL CALL

(Continued from last month)

TEXAS

H. M. Breedlove, Donley County agent.

S. L. Garrison, Lamb County agent.

W. E. Gentry, Camp County agent.

H. M. Gibbs, Fort Bend County agent.

Louis Gilbreath, Jim Wells County agent.

R. M. Knox, Freestone County agent.

Jessie Murdock, Galveston County home demonstration agent, WAC.

W. H. Ratcliff, assistant agent, Taylor County.

Murle Scales, Wheeler County home demonstration agent, WAVE.

Arlene Schonerstedt, Waller County home demonstration agent, WAC.

Sadie V. Seward, Ochiltree County home demonstration agent, WAC.

M. J. Simms, Dallam County agent.

Marjorie Sue Stewart, LaSalle County home demonstration agent, WAVE.

H. A. Weatherby, Dimmit County agent.

Harvest the waste acres

■ Wartime pressure on food revives interest in some of our food resources often neglected in recent years—the wild fruits and nuts, and small game and fish from both natural and artificial ponds. Elderberry bushes in fence corners can supply delectable pies and jellies to brighten the wartime diet. Wild plums, cherries, and grapes in jams and jellies have a delicate flavor all their own which adds variety to the menu. Sun-ripened wild strawberries are a delicacy, and all grow on what is often considered waste acres. These uncultivated acres not only produce wild fruit and nuts, but the bushes shelter game.

As the need for utilizing these resources became apparent about 2 years ago, soil conservationists, biologists, horticulturists, and nutrition specialists in the Department of Agriculture and in the States began to work together to make the most of the Crops growing on wasteland.

The Soil Conservation Service has encouraged the planting of varieties of wild fruit and nut trees in their plantings to hold the soil on areas indicated as waste acres. As a result of the several million shrubs planted by farmers cooperating with soil-conservation districts last year, nearly a million were species that produce nuts or fruits valuable for jams, jellies, pies, or preserves. These plantings were established to control wind and water erosion on gullies and odd areas, stream banks, spoil banks, and in windbreaks, hedges, and field borders.

These plantings and the natural wild bushes on the place must be protected from fire and other hazards if there is anything to harvest. These methods are being taught to farmers in soil-conservation districts and to 4-H Club members.

Nutritionists have supplied some good new recipes for the crops on the waste acres, for the fruits will not get harvested unless the family particularly likes them and learns to appreciate the peculiarly good flavor of these wild fruits.

The opportunity to sell wild fruit and nuts is also not overlooked. In the acid bogs of Northern States, cranberries and blueberries offer a source of considerable revenue. In a good year, huckleberries and blueber-

ries picked from wild, unimproved stock provide in the United States the astonishing return of \$10,000,000. The wild low-bush blueberry of Maine and the Lake States alone provides a return of nearly \$5,000,000. The thick, shiny, dark-green leaves of the Pacific Coast evergreen blueberry are sold to florists and the berries are valued as a food crop.

The wild blackberry crop in Grainger County, Tenn., became a 4-H project, and 235,000 pounds were harvested to bolster the national supply of fruit and other food. Grainger is one of the smaller counties with small acreages of tillable land per farm and considerable wasteland on which blackberries thrive. The county 4-H Clubs, composed of more than 600 members, helped with the harvest. The pickers received 7 cents per pound

Elderberries in a fence corner offer many possibilities such as pie and jelly.



for their berries; and 1 cent went to the club which received, crated, and paid the pickers. The club issued 7,500 checks, amounting to \$16,000 to club members and their families. The 4-H Club received more than \$2,000 for handling, which was mostly invested in war bonds. Some families received as much as \$200, a most welcome addition to their income. Enterprising 4-H Clubs are seeing the opportunity in this type of harvest.

Fishing is another pleasant and

good way to harvest waste acres. Good fishing can be made, and in recent years farmers have been helped to construct tens of thousands of fishponds. In Texas alone, the extension wildlife conservation specialist reports the stocking of about 7,400 ponds. In the past year, the Soil Conservation Service districts reported 2,450 ponds stocked. These were stocked with nearly 7,000,000 fish. Yields of about 250 pounds of fish per surface acre per year are obtained in a well-managed pond. The fish furnish a welcome variety to the wartime menu.

County Agent W. D. Coulson of Throckmorton County, Tex., who assisted with the construction and stocking of between 250 and 275 fishponds last year, said that the two main things to remember are not to overcrowd the fish and to feed the fish. He finds that fishponds are good as a 4-H project or as an adult demonstration.

■ W. C. DAVID has been appointed acting State leader for Negro extension work in Texas in place of Dr. E. B. Evans who has been granted a year's leave of absence to assist in planning and assembling a faculty for the first school of veterinary medicine for Negroes at Tuskegee Institute. Mr. David, who has recently been working on the farm labor program, will continue to carry part of those duties as well as directing the activities of the Negro Extension Service in Texas.



Flashes

FROM SCIENCE FRONTIERS

A few hints of what's in the offing as a result of scientific research in the U. S. Department of Agriculture that may be of interest to extension workers, as seen by Marion Julia Drown, Agricultural Research Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

■ **"A" is in acorns.** In searching for new sources of vitamin A for feeding poultry, investigators found that acorns of the willow oak, *Quercus phellos*, are unusually potent in this vitamin. Although 2 percent or more of acorns in the diet caused the flesh of chickens to become yellow, the intensity of the color increasing with the quantity fed, as much as 20 percent in the diet appeared to have no harmful effect on the birds. The results of the experiment indicated that small quantities of acorns may serve as the sole source of vitamin A in poultry feed mixture.

■ **Piebe has the right genes.** The breeding program being carried out in the Beltsville dairy herd is producing uniformly good milking cows. Some, of course, are slightly better than others. A butterfat production record for the Holstein-Friesian breed on three milkings a day has recently been completed by a cow with a name to live up to—Line Gerben Pride Colantha Piebe. Her official record for 365 days is 1,207 pounds of butterfat and 32,191 pounds of milk. Only 55 cows of her breed have produced as much as 1,000 pounds of butterfat in a year on 3 daily milkings, and 5 of them are in the Beltsville herd. Piebe's total lifetime butterfat production has been 4,618 pounds—2¾ times her own weight. Such records are the result of many years of intensive breeding and herd development. Cows in the Bureau of Dairy Industry's herd at Beltsville receive normal feed and care. No special high-pressure rations are fed cows on official test. They get corn silage and alfalfa hay, balanced with standard grain mixture.

■ **More light on vitamin C.** Amount of light, rather than variety, soil condition, temperature, or moisture, is the factor determining the vitamin C content of tomatoes. This was estab-

lished by the work of scientists at the U. S. Plant, Soil, and Nutrition Laboratory of the ARA at Ithaca, N. Y., where nutrition is studied from the soil up to man. In many experiments in both field and laboratory the cause of variations in the vitamin C values of tomatoes was sought. One by one, all other possible causes were eliminated, and sunlight was shown to be the factor responsible. Illumination was measured at each location where the test tomato plants were grown, and the more light they received, the higher was the vitamin C content of the fruits. The lesson seems to be: grow tomatoes where they will get the maximum amount of sunlight.

■ **For a better fit.** A new bulletin from the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics tells how to make commercial patterns fit individual needs. It is called Pattern Alteration and is Farmers' Bulletin 1968. Many women are not "perfect 36's" and do not conform exactly to any other pattern size. Some need to make the skirt longer or wider through the hips; some have only to shorten the back of the blouse or lengthen the sleeves. How to change the pattern before the dress material is cut is told in this bulletin and illustrated with sketches.

■ **Corncob-driven motors for day-after-tomorrow?** A two-story, 66-by-44-foot building under construction on the grounds of the Northern Regional Research Laboratory at Peoria, Ill., will be the scene of research on a semi-commercial scale to determine whether agricultural wastes can be converted economically into liquid motor fuels. Results of laboratory investigations by Department chemists indicate that 90 to 95 gallons of motor fuel can be obtained from a ton of corncobs or cottonseed hulls, about half of which is in the form of ethyl alcohol. It is estimated that some-

thing like 100 million tons of farm wastes, including peanut shells, oat hulls, cottonseed hulls, and corncobs, may be available each year for the production of motor fuel and other commercially valuable products. This work is part of a program authorized by Congress in 1944 for large-scale research on the production of synthetic liquid fuels from coal, oil shale, agricultural and forest products, and other substances. Corncobs will be the first of the agricultural materials to be tested in the new plant.

Lend-lease shearing schools

Up on the Minnesota-Canadian border, sheep-shearing schools have attained a lend-lease status.

It all happened because a late spring snowstorm messed up a 2-day sheep-shearing school scheduled for International Falls April 18-19. When W. E. Morris, extension animal husbandman of University Farm, St. Paul, and Roger Davis, sheep-shearing instructor from Brook Park, Minn., arrived for the school, every sheep raiser on the Minnesota side was snowed in, together with the sheep that had been lined up for practice shearing.

Only customers were County Agricultural Representative E. S. Marr and a group of farmers from Canada who had asked County Agent Charles Haley if they might come over into Minnesota to take part in the Koochi-ching County school. Interest of the Canadian group was aroused by radio publicity. The visitors suggested that farmers on the Canadian side were eager for sheep-shearing instruction and that the roads were sufficiently open so that they could get sheep to work on. Custom officials gave the nod, and the school moved across the border into Emo, Ont., with full good-neighbor equipment.

Mr. Morris reports that 32 Canadian farmers took the instruction provided by the school and announced that they were greatly pleased with the opportunity.

The lend-lease school was one of 13 held under the auspices of the Extension Services and the Federal and State departments of education as a part of the war program to meet a serious shortage of sheep shearers. A total of 221 men and boys took the free training course this spring.

Among Ourselves

■ **PEARLE CHAPMAN** has recently been appointed the first clothing specialist for New Mexico. She received her B. S. degree from State Teachers College at Kirksville, Mo., and taught home economics in Missouri high schools. She has her master's degree in clothing and textiles from Teachers College, Columbia University. Prior to her position in New Mexico she taught at East Carolina Teachers College, Greenville, N. C. Last summer she was an emergency urban war food assistant in Rocky Mount, N. C.

■ **T. G. HORNUNG**, an economist, and **IVAN D. MAYER**, an agricultural engineer, have joined the Federal extension staff recently to assist the State specialists with their farm labor efficiency and work simplification programs. Mr. Hornung will help with problems relating to the economic phases of agricultural labor, namely, more efficient use of the labor available and with work simplification. Mr. Mayer will devote his time to giving assistance on programs utilizing machinery, buildings, and equipment for increasing labor efficiency and for simplifying the work on the farms and in the farm homes. In all of the programs safety of the workers and protection of farm buildings, equipment, and supplies will be given increased emphasis.

Mr. Hornung is a graduate of the University of Nebraska with a B. S. degree in animal husbandry and farm economics and the University of Illinois with an M. S. degree in farm management and agricultural economics. Prior to joining the staff of the Extension Service he served 2 years as economic analyst for the Livestock and Meats Branch, War Food Administration; 5 years in the Division of Land Economics, Bureau of Agricultural Economics in the regional field offices at Lincoln, Nebr., and Milwaukee, Wis.; and 9 years as extension economist in farm management and marketing in Indiana.

Mr. Mayer is a graduate of Purdue University with the degrees of B.S.C.E.; B.S. Agriculture; and M. S. Agriculture. He has had extension experience

with the Portland Cement Association of Chicago and for the past 23 years has been a member of the Agricultural Engineering Department of Purdue University, carrying work in extension and research in farm machinery, farm structures, and in soil and water conservation.

■ **MRS. EUGENIA L. NICHOLS** has joined the Federal Extension Service as an emergency assistant. She will assist Miss Gertrude Warren, club organization specialist, in her work with 4-H Clubs with special reference to methods of organizing and conducting homemaking phases of 4-H Club work in connection with the production and conservation of food throughout the United States. Mrs. Nichols has had experience in general group work as well as 4-H Club work, serving last year as head of the State 4-H Food Conservation Program in New Jersey. She was formerly a member of the New York City executive council of National Camp Fire Girls and has served extensively as chairman of volunteer community activities. Mrs. Nichols was graduated from Syracuse University with the degrees of Bachelor and Master of Science.

■ **PAUL L. FLETCHER** joins staff of economic section of Federal Extension Service. Mr. Fletcher will devote his time to assisting the States with livestock, wool, and grain-marketing problems and related economic matters.

Mr. Fletcher was formerly an economist with the Livestock and Meats Branch of the Office of Marketing Services in the War Food Administration where his work was connected with civilian meat requirements, livestock goals, the support price program for hogs, and War Food orders dealing with livestock and meats. In the commercial field, Mr. Fletcher served as manager of a cooperative livestock commission association and has had diversified experience in marketing, including State work with the Extension Service and the Bureau of Markets. Mr. Fletcher was graduated from the Virginia Polytechnic Institute with a B. S. degree in animal husbandry and an M. S. in agricultural economics.

■ **GEORGE I. GILBERTSON** assumed the acting directorship of the South Dakota Extension Service on April 1. He succeeds John V. Heppler who has accepted the position of regional supervisor for the Federal Extension Service at Manhattan, Kans., in charge of the farm-labor program activities for the North Central States.

Mr. Gilbertson has been extension entomologist in South Dakota since 1937. He was graduated from South Dakota State College in 1914 and the following year received his master's degree.

With the exception of an absence for army service in World War I, he has been on the faculty of the college ever since graduation. He served as associate professor of entomology until 1937 when he became associated with the Extension Service.

■ **WILLIAM C. BATTAN**, county agricultural agent of Luce and Mackinac Counties, Mich., died March 1, 1945. Mr. Battan went to the Luce-Mackinac district on July 1, 1944, but in the short time he was there he made a host of friends among the farm people and among the people of Newberry. He had started to build a sound extension program for not only the farms of the two counties but also for the lands outside the farm area. One of the nicest tributes was given by Paul Barrett, Michigan land use and conservation specialist, who wrote: "I don't know when I have worked with an agent who was more sincere in trying to help people of his county than Bill was. Apparently, he was willing to start at the bottom and build a good program for Luce County. Losing him is in my opinion a real tragedy for the Extension Service and the counties where he was working."

■ **SYBIL BATES** has recently gone to Colorado as clothing specialist. She is a graduate of Texas Women's College at Denton, has her master's degree from Teachers College, Columbia University, and has been a home demonstration agent in Arkansas. Since 1935 she has been home industries specialist in that State.

Pioneer in Extension Service club work passes on

■ One of Texas' most original-minded educators, Mrs. Maggie Wilkins Hill Barry, died at Bryan, Tex., of infirmities of age on April 30. Mrs. Barry was specialist for women's organizations for the Texas A. & M. College Extension Service from 1918 until a few years ago. Although on partial retirement for more than 5 years she remained in active touch with extension work as adviser in rural organization.

In the fall of 1941, the Texas Home Demonstration Association, organization of 40,000 rural women, with which Mrs. Barry had long been identified, paid tribute to Mrs. Barry's leadership in education by naming its annual college scholarship for her. This honor was conferred because her work in some way had touched practically every woman in Texas.

When Mrs. Barry assumed her work at Texas A. & M. in 1918, she brought to it a wealth of culture and experience in organization methods.

She at first thought this development of leadership might be most readily accomplished by relating rural women to the existing organizations of urban women who had attained civic consciousness. She soon realized that such a plan was a mistake. Out of this experience came the theory of education through organization that

underlies all home demonstration organizations: such organizations must follow the law of natural growth which is from the bottom up and from the inside out. The results should be the development of the membership as individuals, as homemakers and parents and as citizens.

In accordance with this, emphasis was placed on organization of local home demonstration clubs in rural communities. When leadership and experience in club procedure and community activity created a desire for wider functioning county home demonstration councils were organized in 1924, and in 1933 the home demonstration clubs organized the Texas Home Demonstration Association.

Mrs. Barry served as a member of the executive committee and on the board of directors of the General Federation of Women's Clubs. Perhaps her greatest contribution was organization of the Federation's Department of the American Home, which she served as chairman. As a member of the American Home Department she proposed an amendment to the Capper-Ketcham Bill which provided increased funds for Extension Service work.

Life memberships were given Mrs. Barry in the Texas Congress of Parents and Teachers, the Texas Feder-

ation of Women's Clubs, and the Texas Library Association. She has been given the distinguished service award of Epsilon Sigma Phi, national extension workers' fraternity, and the 1940 merit award of the Texas Agricultural Workers' Association for distinguished service to Texas agriculture.

An article, "Rededication to Truth," prepared by Mrs. Barry, appeared in the Extension Service Review for June-July, 1940.

Grocery store canning consultants

■ Correct canning information was brought to hundreds of rural and urban homemakers in Waseca County, Minn., last year as the result of a volunteer canning consultant service set up in local grocery stores.

Local home and community chairmen volunteered to serve as consultants. They attended meetings at which they were instructed by the home demonstration agent, Mrs. Evelyn Sandal, in answering questions and presenting material. Merchants cooperated by publicizing the program in their ads and handbills and in window displays.

Since the program was an innovation in the county, it was given a trial run in the town of Waseca. There it proved so successful that the merchants in Janesville requested the canning-consultant service.

On Saturday nights during July and August, the volunteer consultants were on hand in the grocery stores. On exhibit in each store were displays of different types of jars and closures, a pressure cooker, and the latest Minnesota Extension Service and USDA food preservation bulletins. In giving information, the consultants placed special emphasis on the correct use of canning equipment as well as correct canning procedures such as proper cleaning of fruit and vegetables, precooking, and use of reliable timetables. Technical questions were referred to Mrs. Sandal.

Through the service, canning information was given to 812 people, 512 of whom represented families not hitherto reached by the home demonstration program.

This year the consultant service is to be used in other towns in Waseca County, as well as in other counties in the State.



Alabama reaches cross section of farm families

■ In an effort to find out just who were taking part in extension activities and whether low-income farmers are benefited, Alabama picked out a typical county and analyzed the extension work there.

Elmore County was chosen because it seemed typical in size, in land tenure, and in proportion of white population to Negro. It also lies near the center of the State.

The total farm population of Elmore County is 22,137, of which 55 percent are white. Of the 3,561 farms in Elmore, nearly 40 percent are operated by owners or part owners, a little more than 60 percent are operated by tenants or croppers, and only 7 farms by farm managers. This follows the same pattern as that of the State as a whole.

There are 6 extension workers in the county—a county agent and assistant, a home demonstration agent and assistant, and a Negro man and woman agent. If all of the farm population were reached personally, this would be 3,689 farm people per agent. Naturally they are not all given personal service, but the record shows that all are served indirectly.

The 272 community and neighborhood leaders are one key to this record. Of these leaders, 227 are owners and 45 are tenants. When this leadership is analyzed by size of farm, nearly one-half of the leaders who are owners are one-horse farmers, and 33 percent are two-horse farmers. This shows that the community and neighborhood leadership is certainly representative of lower income and smaller farmers. These are the leaders in the program initiated and directed by the extension agents.

Of the 4-H boys and girls in the 55 clubs, 665 are sons and daughters of owners, and 1,403 are sons and daughters of tenants. Nearly 70 percent of these boys and girls are from one-horse farms and 24 percent from two-horse farms.

In the 48 home demonstration clubs in the county, 761 are from owners' farms and 1,003 from tenant homes, 62 percent from one-horse farms and 27 percent from two-horse farms.

In such activities as dairy improvement a larger percentage of owners are taking part, but here too a big majority are one- and two-horse farmers. There are in Elmore 356 registered Jerseys owned by 153 farmers. Of these farmers, 75 percent are farm owners and 25 percent tenants. But here too when the farms are classified on a basis of size, 45 percent are from one-horse farms and 29 percent from two-horse farms.

The dairy program was started back in 1935 when Elmore County farmers decided that there was an advantage in concentrating on one breed and decided upon purebred Jerseys. Extension workers have helped farmers in keeping their registration papers on animals eligible for registration, in selecting sires, and in arranging annual shows and promoting better breeding for production in every way open to them.

Results are shown, not only in the number of registered Jerseys owned but in the quality of the sires, with three 4-star bulls, one 3-star bull, six 2-star bulls, and fifteen 1-star bulls listed in the county.

Milk Production Stepped Up

Commercial milk sales in 1943 were approximately \$10,040; but with the location of a new milk-processing plant in an adjoining county and the wartime need for milk production, farmers under extension leadership increased their sales to \$125,611 in 1944. Although the stepped-up production serves well in war times, this program is being built around home feed production so that it will fit into a permanent farming system.

Another example of extension work in the county is in the one-variety cotton improvement program begun in 1939. Demonstrations in treating cotton planting seed with mercury dust began the previous year in 28 communities. Now it is estimated that 80 percent of all farmers practice this seed treatment.

The one-variety communities were introduced, and 5 are now functioning, with 211 farmers cooperating. The county agent advises the board of directors of these communities of re-

sults of experiment station tests and yields within the county of the several varieties available. From this information the selection is made. Ninety-eight tons of cotton planting seed direct from the breeder and 1 year from the breeder was procured in 1945 for 830 farms with an estimated equal number of tenants.

On April 7, 1945, Mr. V. L. Keeble, assistant county agent, was helping in a cottonseed-treating demonstration when a Negro share cropper came to the demonstration with his planting seed for 1945. He said: "These seed are Cokers 100-wilt, 1 year from the breeder. I farmed with Mr. Riley Martin last year, and we got our cottonseed direct from the breeder and I saved my planting seed for this year." Thus extension teaching spreads among the low-income group as well as among those with more income.

Fifteen gins operated in the county last year, and of these 7 have installed improvements such as dryers and cleaners to turn out a better grade of lint as a result of extension work with ginnermen. A conservative estimate reveals that the 1,600 farmers who patronized this gin sold their cotton at \$3 to \$5 per bale more than the average Alabama farmer received for his cotton.

Many farm and home practices have been adopted after the 4-H son or daughter has demonstrated the practicability of it. Last year in Elmore 949 young folks were trained as judges; nearly 1,000 learned to demonstrate some new practice; 436 were trained in fire and accident prevention; 871 were trained in keeping accounts. These young farmers have nearly 5,500 acres in corn, more than 8,762 chickens and turkeys, 188 dairy animals, and 483 hogs. The girls have canned 92,352 quarts of food, and made nearly 4,000 garments.

Farm Homes Improved

The farm homes also feel the effect of extension work. For example, last year more than 542 women improved their kitchens so that work could be done more conveniently. Three hundred and forty-four screened their homes or used recommended methods of controlling flies and insects, and 487 removed fire or accident hazards. Ten schools were helped to establish and maintain a hot school lunch. Nearly 124,000 quarts of fruit, vegetables, meats, and fish were canned.

The home agent's philosophy of work

Miss Teh-yin Ma

■ The purpose of the work is not for high salary but for the interest in people and in work. Farm people are human. They have the same rights as others have. They work hard, even harder than many other people. Therefore, they deserve to have some physical or material conveniences as others have. They can see this point far ahead. The function of a home agent is to put some ideas into the minds of farm women and farmers. It is a way to arouse or to stimulate their desire of want. When they want something they are ready to accept new methods of farming and home management in order to improve the standards of living.

To the home agent the 8 hours per day are not enough. During this gas-rationing period some farm women may come to the office for help after 4:30. So for that the home agent should remain in her office later than her secretary, and she also should visit the homes more often to see whether or not the farm families need some special help. Sometimes she may not be able to come back to her residence after 6. It is easy to overwork if the agent has an interest in her work. The home agent should enjoy her long hours of work; then she will not get tired. Sometimes she feels tired, but the friendly attitudes and appreciation of the farm women sweep her weariness away. This is the secret of keeping up health.

Give Respect to Individuality

Each person has some individuality. Each person has both strong and weak points. The home agent should give respect to the individuality of farm women. She should treat both rich and poor people just alike. She should help the poor people to see their strong points and help them to have some position in the club. She should treat everyone with the spirit of service, of kindness, of friendliness, of patience, and of sincerity. In the club meeting she is not the boss of the work. She gives the women opportunity to be responsible for certain things. She should never be critical toward what the club members have done. She should always encourage

them. By few words she should praise their work and appreciate their help. She gives them opportunity to try out the demonstration several times. The more they practice, the better demonstrations they will give. It takes time to train a local leader, but it is good for them. Let them learn to do it by themselves.

She never misses an opportunity to give help to club members and others. She feels that she can learn something from farm women. She has the spirit of learning. Therefore, she does not think that farm women are ignorant. They are not ignorant. They are like an undeveloped mine; there is rich ore underneath. The home agent is the miner who will help the farm women develop in a useful way.

Leads to Sense of Confidence

When she teaches farm women she always leads them to develop the sense of confidence. They have confidence in their own ability to carry on the demonstration in their homes and also have confidence in her ability to lead them. She tries to understand people but does not expect them to follow her blindly. She speaks to farm women with a friendly and soft voice and with a warm and sincere expression which will draw the farm women near to her. She speaks to the farm women with a sense of humor which makes the farm women feel free in her presence.

She does not show off her knowledge before farm women, but she always makes them feel that they are learning together. She is always frank with the farm women. If she does not know how to dye a fur coat, she does not feel ashamed. She tells others the truth but is glad to find information for them.

She speaks in a friendly way to every club member. She talks to them about their projects or those of their children. She speaks as a businesswoman. She does not waste time gossiping. As soon as she finishes the job she will leave. Every time she speaks to them she does not say "You should not do this or that," but she says "What do you think?"

She asks home demonstration club

members to express ideas by asking them questions. "What do you think about this demonstration on soybeans? What changes would you make in preparing these dishes?" They feel free to talk, and the discussion carries on in an interesting way.

She does not tell farm women about how many grains of protein or how much for vitamins. She simply mentions the names of seven foods. If they can have them every day, they are eating for better health.

To plan the program with the people is the way to help them meet their own needs. To let club members participate in the program during each meeting is one way to train leadership. To cooperate with some private and public agencies is one of the ways to give more benefits to the farm families and to let more people understand the nature of extension work. To use as many local leaders as she can is a way to beget real leadership.

To think of the needs of farm people first instead of the cost of the gas and other things is the way to make friends with farm people.

To help the farm family plan things together is to help the farmers develop real appreciation toward the work of their wives and to improve the family living standard cooperatively.

To make friends with the heads of public and private agencies is an easy way to sell extension work to them.

To give some suggestions to the farm women but not to make any decisions for them is a way of helping them to develop the ability of solving problems by themselves.

Local Leader Knows Best

To believe that the local leader knows her club members better than the agents is a secret for the success of work. The local leader can speak the language which is easy for the club members to understand. She makes local leaders believe she can go ahead with a program without any help from the agent. She knows the common sayings among her own group. Therefore, there will be more people carried on the project work in their homes because they feel that if one of them can do it, all can do it.

To go out and find the people—not to sit in the office waiting for someone to come and help.

Miss Teh-yin Ma, from China, is spending a year studying extension methods here. After a recent visit to Alabama, she wrote the following understanding report on the home demonstration agent's philosophy of work. Dr. C. S. Hsieh, another Chinese student of extension methods, in discussing the Extension Service and how it might be applied to conditions in China at an Epsilon Sigma Phi luncheon, described a good county agent. He visited extension agents in Minnesota, Georgia, and Alabama.



A group of foreign students attending a class in extension methods. Dr. Hsieh is in the foreground in the first row. Miss Ma is in the second row, second from the right.

The good county agent

Dr. C. S. Hsieh

■ In the whole list of extension staff members, the most numerous ones are the county extension agents. The county extension agent stands closest to the people and is the one who actually extends the new knowledge to the people and brings back facts and problems from them. He is like a soldier in an army who stands nearest to the battle front and does the actual fighting.

The county agent must possess certain qualities in order to be a good agent. In the first place, he must have interest in what he is doing. One morning, the county agent in whose county I was having practical experience took me to visit some of his farms. Upon arriving at a farm, he

went directly to a fine cow and calf and, turning toward me, said "Here is a growing herd." After this visit I realized that this agent has a real interest in his work. He likes livestock, and his face brightens when he sees a good herd.

Second, a county agent is like a salesman whose commodities are new methods and practices of farming and homemaking and new ideas of living. But unlike the salesman whose first interest is usually in making a profit out of his business, the first interest of the county agent is to improve the life of the rural people. So long as the life of the people needs to be improved, either by increasing their income or by changing their way of

living, his interest is unabated even although, for one reason or another, his ideas have not been sold. He will come back to sell his ideas with different methods to meet the different needs of the people.

Third, a good county agent must be willing to cooperate with the local people as well as with representatives of other government or private agencies. The extent of his influence among the farmers is in direct proportion to the degree of his willingness to cooperate with others.

Fourth, a good county agent is eager to learn new things. It is a recognized fact that to graduate from a college is only the beginning of making a life career. Much of the knowledge that the agent had acquired in college will be forgotten or become out of date. His success and his progress in his work depend in a large measure upon how fast he can learn the new things that have been developing around his personal world.

Fifth, a good county agent must possess a sense of humor. The path of life is not always smooth; many times it is tough and rough, especially in dealing with persons. A sense of humor is, therefore, a necessary tonic that an agent must learn to develop if he wants to be a good sportsman and not to be easily discouraged.

Last, but not least, a good county agent must have faith in his people, a sense of mission, and courage to accept a challenge. Faith is an intangible; but Mr. Lilienthal, one of TVA's directors, says that it is the most real thing we could have. Faith is a strong weapon that no extension worker can afford to lose. It is something which enables him to see things beyond his horizon. The agent must realize that the ideas he brings to the farming people are beyond the horizon of the farm people. If he can not see beyond his own horizon, how can he expect his people to do the same?

■ Last year a total of 219 4-H Club members in northern Colorado produced enough sugar beets to provide 61,000 people with their 1945 sugar supply.

Beef club members of Colorado produced more than 2,000,000 pounds of good beef. More than 500,000 pounds of this was sold at two fat-stock sales.

Three thousand girls in 4-H clothing clubs made 5,900 garments.

The once-over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

A RECENT VISITOR in the Washington Extension office was Mrs. Josefina Y. Irizarry, district home demonstration agent in Puerto Rico. Mrs. Irizarry won a scholarship offered by the University of Puerto Rico and has been spending the past 8 months studying at the Florida State College for Women and getting her master's degree in home economics. She has been a home demonstration agent in Puerto Rico since the work was organized there 10 years ago, in fact was one of the first three agents appointed. The university gives 26 scholarships each year for advanced study on the mainland. Out of 300 applicants this past year, Mrs. Irizarry won one of these scholarships.

ON A BICYCLE, L. C. Cunningham, extension marketing specialist for New York, started out last month for a couple of weeks of taking farm management surveys in Montgomery County. It's war transportation that is guaranteed to save on the gasoline and leave the transported one ready for a good night's sleep.

RECENT STATE RELEASES show that extension agents are going full steam ahead on the production program. Negro county agents in 43 North Carolina counties report that Negro farmers are rapidly increasing the number of chickens on their farms to help solve the meat shortage. All curb markets in North Carolina report large sales of chickens, and this fact increases the production in the areas served by the market. Sales on the Beaufort County market were more than \$1,000 for the 4 Saturdays in May, and chickens were a major part of the sales of the 18 farmers selling on this market.

MORE LITTLE PIGS in Kansas is the outlook, according to C. G. Elling and C. E. Aubel, animal husbandmen. The Kansas goal of 30 percent more farrowings this fall than last fall will probably be reached, they say.

RURAL FAT SALVAGE collection has shown a rapid rise this spring and summer. Since extension agents

accepted the primary responsibility for the campaign in rural areas early in the year, they can take credit for much of the success of this important war activity. The campaign has produced an increase in the amount of fat collected in both rural and urban areas, but the increase in rural collections has been considerably more than in cities.

STUDENTS OF EXTENSION METHODS from other countries recently organized that they might continue to exchange ideas, experiences, and results of their adventures in extension work after they go back to their homes. The president, Alvaro Chaparro, and Secretary Antonio Penate of the new association are both from Colombia. Organization of the society climaxed a year's study by 25 students under scholarships provided by the Department of State and the Office of Inter-American Affairs. These boys have spent several months with extension agents, and they leave many friends among rural people. The countries represented are Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Ecuador, Haiti, Jamaica, and Venezuela.

TO HEAD G.I. UNIVERSITY in Shrivenham, England, J. L. Boatman, chief of the Division of Subject Matter in Washington, was busy last month in and out of the Pentagon Building

EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW

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and out working up an agricultural faculty to teach G.I. students stationed over there. Some instructors are army men with agricultural training, and others are being loaned to the War Department by land-grant colleges. This is a part of an extensive educational program for troops remaining in the European theater of operations, which includes correspondence schools, unit schools and attendance foreign civilian colleges, centralized technical schools, and Army university study centers such as that at Shrivenham and a similar center at Fontainebleau, France. Each of these university study centers will have an enrollment of about 4,000.

THE FLYING FARMERS' MEET will be the high point of Oklahoma's Farm and Home Week, August 2 and 3. The flying farmers, more than 100 of them, plan to attend and take part in the meet. Post-war planes will be flown in and exhibited on the campus. An afternoon program will be given to farm aviation and special events and to speakers high in the aviation world. Flying farmers and their families from nearby States are also being invited. In addition to aviation, post-war farm and home equipment are being exhibited and featured this year.

ANOTHER RECENT VISITOR to the office is M. Gerry, in charge of agricultural rehabilitation for France. He was here 3 days and made arrangements to visit a number of State and county extension offices. He was interested in the agricultural programs offered to farmers here and in the mechanization of agriculture. He wanted to know more about 4-H Clubs and how they function, as well as about the meat-packing industry in Chicago and Detroit.

NEW SAFETY LEAFLET, out in time for Safety Week, gives practical safety hints for women workers on the farm. It is published and for sale by the Farm Division, National Safety Council, 20 N. Wacker Drive, Chicago.

A GARDEN GROWS IN ALASKA in many a 4-H yard. Last year there were 22 in the 4-H garden contest in Southwestern Alaska. The food preservation awards were made to two native Alaskan girls, both in the Eklutna Vocational School.